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February 25, 2002

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DXCC COUNTRY/ENTITY REPORT: According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of Sunday, 17/February, through Sunday, 24/February there were 240 countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3C, 3V, 3W, 4J, 4L, 4S, 4U1I, 4W, 4X, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 5U, 5V, 5W, 5Z, 6Y, 7Q, 7X, 8P, 8Q, 8R, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9M2, 9M6, 9N, 9Q, 9U, 9V, 9Y, A2, A3, A4, A5, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C3, C5, C6, CE, CE0A, CE0X, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, D4, DL, DU, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, EP, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, EZ, F, FG, FH, FJ, FK, FM, FO, FP, FR, FW, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, H4, H40, HA, HB, HB0, HC, HI, HK, HK0/a, HL, HM, HP, HR, HS, HZ, I, IS, J2, J3, J5, J6, J7, JA, JD/o, JT, JW, JX, JY, K, KG4, KH0, KH2, KH3, KH6, KH8, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ7, PY, PY0T, PZ, S2, S5, S7, S9, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV/a, SV5, SV9, T2, T30, T7, T8, T9, TA, TF, TG, TI, TI9, TK, TL, TR, TT, TU, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V2, V3, V4, V5, V7, V8, VE, VK, VP2E, VP2M, VP2V, VP5, VP6, VP8, VP8/h, VP8/o, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XU, XW, XX9, YA, YB, YI, YJ, YK, YL, YN, YO, YS, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZC4, ZD7, ZD9, ZF, ZK1/s, ZL, ZP, ZS

* PLEASE NOTE: The report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations. As always, you never know - "Work First Worry Later" (WFWL).

THE EXCITEMENT AND ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK.....

- **PW0, TRINDADE ISLAND.** This operation became active on **February 18th** and will continue **until March 2nd**. Some 1.5 tons of gear was off-loaded to the island by a Navy helicopter early Monday morning. Currently, the pile-ups are getting smaller and **PW0T** is getting easier to work on the usual higher bands CW/SSB. There has been activity by PW0T on the lower bands and RTTY. QSL via KU9C. Check the Web site for continuing updates at: <http://www.trindade2002.com>
- **TI9, COCOS ISLAND.** Like the PW0T operation, this DXpedition will continue **until March 2nd**. Pile-ups are getting smaller, and it is getting easier to work on the usual

higher bands. There is plenty of RTTY and 6 meter activity. There has been some activity on the lower bands. QSL via AK0A. Check the Web site for continuing updates at: <http://www.qsl.net/ti9m/>

3W, VIETNAM. Conny, DL1DA, is expected to be active this week, possibly as **3W9KCS**, until **March 15th**. He will be on holiday so activity may be limited. Look for him to be on 40-10 meters CW. QSL via DL1DA.

6W, SENEGAL. Francois, VE2XO, is expected to be in **Dakar** from **February 27th through March 3rd**. The callsign is not known yet. Activity should be like his recent Guinea operation (3XY6A). Watch 20/17/15 meters SSB.

9K, KUWAIT (Special Activity). Every year on **February 25-26th** the country of Kuwait celebrates its "**National and Liberation Day**". To participate in this occasion, the Kuwait Amateur Radio Society will be active using the callsign **9K2NLD** on many amateur bands and modes. There will be a special QSL card issued for the occasion. By the time you read this the event should have started and it is expected to end 2359z on Thursday, **February 28th**. There is no deadline for submitting applications for the QSL card which should be addressed to: Kuwait Amateur Radio Society, P.O. BOX 5240 Safat, 13053, Kuwait.

D2, ANGOLA. Joao, CT1BFL, is now in Luanda and is signing **D2U** for the next **two years**. Activity will be on 160-10 meters CW/SSB. QSL via CT1BFL.

DXCC NEWS. Bill Moore, NC1L, DXCC Manager, reports the following: "**9Q0AR** (Democratic Republic of Congo) has been on hold awaiting supporting documentation. This has been received and upon review it is now being accepted for DXCC credit. Anyone who had this rejected during a recent submission can contact DXCC at dxcc@arrl.org for an update to their record. Or, it can be sent with the next submission for credit."

DAWG X-RAY CLUB (The only DX-Club you don't want to belong to!).... Fritz, DL4TT, wants DXers to visit the following Web site. He is looking for your feedback. Check out the URL at: <http://www.qsl.net/dl4tt/DawgX-rayClub.html>

FIVE STAR DXERS ASSOCIATION (Update). Don Field, G3XTT, D68C Publicity Officer, informs OPDX of the following: "Phil G3SWH reports that around 85% of the direct requests for **D68C** QSLs have now been processed and that around 42,500 QSOs have been confirmed to date. Our thanks again to Phil. The team is now starting to think about the perennial question, 'Where do we go next?'. The Five Star DXers Association, with its expeditions to 9M0C and D68C, now has considerable experience in mounting large-scale operations to 'top 100' DXCC entities, with the ability to cover all bands and modes to fill those missing slots, and is looking to mount its next operation in late-2003 or early 2004. We are not planning to head for Peter 1 or Bouvet, but the sort of DX entity where you may have a 20m QSO, but are finding those low band, WARC or data slots hard to fill. To this end, we would be interested in your 9-band, 3-mode 'wanted' lists, so we can gain some idea of which these entities might be. E-mail your needs to Don, G3XTT, at: g3xtt@lineone.net Being mainly a European group our preference would be for an African location for reasons of cost, propagation and travel time. (We have of course already reviewed the various 'most-wanted' surveys.) If there are enough responses, we will make the analysis public, for the benefit of other would-be DXpeditioners."

GJ, JERSEY. Pete/K8PT and Craig/K3PLV will make their 3rd annual trek to the Channel Islands and activate Jersey from **March 13-19th**. The emphasis will be on CW and RTTY, however, Craig will try RS-12/13 for evening (USA time) passes. Concentration will be on WARC bands during daylight and 30/40/80 meters during the evenings. Callsigns will be **MJ/K8PT** and **MJ/K3PLV**. QSLs go via their home callsigns.

IOTA NEWS.....

- **RARE IOTA ACTIVATED.** If you worked **CV1F** over the past weekend, it was activity from **San Gabriel Island (SA-057)**. Operators CX1SI, CX1CV, CX2AM, CX2FR, CX2RU/A, CX3AN, CX3BV, CX4AAJ, CX4CR, CX4AAE, CX4SS, CX6FK and CX8FB were transported to the island by the Uruguayan Navy. They were to have 5 stations active on all bands 160-2 meters. QSL via EA5KB.
- **EU-129.** The Crew of DL0FTL will be active from **April 12-20th**, from the Island of **Usedom** (German Island Award O- 13). Operators will be DF3UFW, DL8DZL, DK5NOA, DL2DSL, DL2DRO, DL2LCE, DM4WL and DL1DWR. ADDED NOTES: On, Sunday **April 14th**, they plan the activation of a new island for the German Island Award called "**Grosse Wotig**" (not IOTA), GIA O-35. Operators will be: DF3UFW, DL8DZL and DK5NOA. At the same time, the rest of the group will be active from the "**Wolgaster Schlossinsel**" (not IOTA), GIA O-031. Operators will be DL2DSL, DL2DRO, DL2LCE, DM4WL and DL1DWR.
- **SA-018, SA-043 and SA-064.** Mark, CE6TBN, will be on the air as **CE6TBN/7** from **Chiloe Island (SA-018, ICE-701)** between **March 7-10th** and from **Acencion Island (SA-043, ICE-704)** between **March 11-14th**. Activity will be on 20/17/15/12/10 meters, only SSB. QSL via N1IBM. Both island are valid for new Chilean Island Award. He may also be going to **Las Huincha Island (SA-064)** to the CE7AOY's QTH.

KG4, GUANTANAMO BAY. Vance, N5VL, will be active as **KG4VL** from **March 1-6th**. This will include an entry in the **ARRL International DX Contest**. Look for some 160 meters operations on CW and SSB. QSL to N5VL.

P4, ARUBA. John, KK9A, who was active as **P40A** this past weekend in the 160 contest, will be here **until March 9th**. Look for activity on 160-10 meters CW/SSB during his stay. QSL via KK9A.

P5, NORTH KOREA (P5/4L4FN Status). It was reported this past week, Bruce, KK5DO, (QSL Manager for Ed, P5/4L4FN) was heard saying he has a good feeling that all of the P5/4L4FN contacts will count for DXCC. However, this is not official yet. He mentioned North Korea doesn't issue any license so any written permission to operate will suffice. Government officials have checked his station on a few occasions and the North Korean government obviously knows he is operating there. His current contract with the United Nations World Food Program is good until June and if it is renewed he will be there for another year. Ed continues to be active on 15 meters SSB. However, he has been practicing some RTTY and CW and should be on those modes soon.

QSL INFO AND NEWS.....

- Omari, **4L5O**, informs OPDX that his QSL card can be obtained from K1WY for QSOs between the year 2000 and now.

- Ron, AC7DX, informs OPDX that he will be the new QSL Manager for Corliss, **AL1G**, in Alaska.
- Keith, GM4YXI, informs OPDX that he now has a QSL Manager. Steve/N3SL and his daughter Kimberly are now managers for GM4YXI, and also for all past and future **9M2/GM4YXI** expeditions. All HF logs from Keith's home station and the 9M2 expeditions [April 1998:AS-097, May 1998:AS-072, May 1999:AS-097, June 9-10th 2000:AS-097 and June 17-18th 2000:AS-074] are with Steve and can be viewed on his homepage at: <http://qsl.net/n3sl/> QSL is OK direct (with the usual postage/SASE) or via the ARRL bureau. All direct requests to Keith's home address have been answered.
- Phil, GU0SUP, President of the Guernsey ARS, informs OPDX that the following Web site has an updated callbook listing for all known GU/MU callsigns. The list includes known operations by visitors, and as much QSL info as possible. The URL is: <http://www.gars.org.gg/calls.html> This is the website of the Guernsey Amateur Radio Society.
- The **OT2H** Contest Crew now has a website where you can read about their adventures in contesting. There are pictures of the crew and the club station (ON7SA), but also there is a log search function for all contests they entered. The page is also valid for **OT0H** and **OT1H**. The OT-prefix is issued to Belgian contest stations, and it allows the use of high power on the HF bands. QSL for OTxH is 100% via bureau to ON5YR (x = last digit of the year, OT0H in 2000, OT1H in 2001...). You can find the club's website at: <http://www.on7sa.be>
- Gerard, ex-PA3AXU and now ON4AXU (he states, "soldiers sometimes have to change their QTH..."), reports that all "**PA3AXU 2001 Pacific Trip**" QSL cards received up through February 5th have been answered.
- Logs for the Southern Cross DX Group's (SCDXG) **XR5SM** DXpeditions (January and February), as well as the ARRL DX CW Contest log, are now on-line at: <http://www.qsl.net/xr5sm/> This Web site has been updated and new photographs have been added. Operations included 160m to 70cm, in CW, FM and SSB modes. Almost 4000 QSOs were made within a total of 67 hours of operation (adding up both trips: XR5SM I and XR5SM II). The XR5SM QSL card has already been designed and will be out from the printer in just a couple of weeks.
- Another team of members of the Southern Cross DX Group, SCDXG, has activated Damas Island which is located in Choros Archipelago belonging to Coquimbo Province Group (SA-086) this past weekend. The callsign was **XR2D**. The team was formed by CE4USW (Team Leader), XQ1IDM, CE4PBB and XQ1ZW (ex XQ3ZW). QSL via CE4USW, P.O. Box 128, Talca, Chile, or via Bureau. There is an informative Web page at: <http://www.qsl.net/xr2d/>
- Venco, **Z36W** (ex-Z31JA, Z32JA, 4N5JA..), informs OPDX that his QSL Manager Mike, NN6C, is currently recovering from a serious heart attack and may be out of action for some time. If you need a QSL card from Venco, please send direct to his address on QRZ.com. The address for his old callsign Z31JA is also still good.
- **QSL MANAGER FOUND!** Charlie, N4CT, now active as **HS0ZDR**, thanked OPDX for the announcement he was looking for a QSL Manager. Charlie states, "WOW, I was really surprised at all the volunteers who E-mailed me replies for my asking for a QSL MGR for my HS0ZDR call. Thanks and I responded to each one. The first offer was from my old friend, Tony, W4FOA, who is retired and an avid DX'er. So I said 'OK Tony, you are my MGR!' Tony prefers QSLs direct to him at his CBA: Tony Martin, W4FOA, 1801 Grand Center Road, Chickamauga, GA 30707-1878. Tony replies immediately to QSLs

sent direct (SASE, IRCs or green stamps please). Bureau cards will be answered, of course, but not sent out that often. Again thanks to all who volunteered...some very nice E-mails... 73-DX DE CHARLIE N4CT HS0ZDR"

- **NEED A QSL MANAGER?** John Pate, KB4UTV, is interested in becoming a QSL Manager. He is a General class licensed amateur and reside in New Hampshire. He is very eager to serve the DX community with his help. If anyone is interested, please contact him at: lighthousedx@hotmail.com
- Steve Wheatley, KU9C, states that the logs for **YA5T** have been updated online through about 0400z on February 17th. You can check them out at: <http://www.ve9dx.com/ya5t/ya5t.html> ADDED NOTE: If you are having trouble in accessing the link above, try going direct (first) to: <http://www.ve9dx.com>

SOUTH SANDWICH/SOUTH GEORGIA POST EXPEDITION REPORT. James, 9V1YC, provided OPDX with a post report on this DXpedition. The complete report will be sent to all OPDX InterNet Subscribers as an additional. In short, the DXpedition achieved all its goals, and results were absolutely outstanding. The expedition made 70,428 QSOs in total using SSB, CW and RTTY. On-air time was 80 hours at VP8THU, and 7 days, 10 hours at VP8GEO. Operators were EI5IQ, EI6FR, HB9ASZ, K0IR, K4UEE, K5TR, N5KO, PA3FQA, VE3EJ, W3WL, W7EW and 9V1YC. QSL routes are as follows: **VP8THU** is via VE3XN; and **VP8GEO** is via VE3GCO Logs are with the managers, QSL's have already been printed, and cards are now rolling out. At this time they do not have a Web site or an on-line log check. A full write up will appear in the usual magazines, and stay tuned for two really cool videos coming out soon.

SPECIAL EVENT. The unique callsign **GB50** has been issued by the United Kingdom Radiocommunications Agency for a special event station to be established at **Windsor Castle** to celebrate the **Queen's Jubilee** (50th Anniversary of her succession to the throne) from **May 29th through June 9th**. The station will be run by Cray Valley Radio Society (CVRS), in association with Burnham Beeches Radio Society (BBRC), and with the support of the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB). Activity will be on daily between 0700-2200z on all bands from 80-6 meters on CW, SSB, PSK31 and RTTY. A 144 MHz station will also be active on CW, SSB and FM. The station will be open to the public. The QSL Manager will be Owen, G4DFI. A Web site is now up and running and will be kept updated with the latest news at: <http://www.gb50.com> OPDX InterNet Subscribers will receive the complete announcement with some more interesting information as an additional bulletin.

WWV/WWVH TO CHANGE FORMAT. Propagation guru Lee, KH6BZF, informs OPDX that "SEC/NOAA has announced that a WWV/WWVH format change will occur on **March 12, 2002**, radio day." Stay tuned to 2.5, 5.0, 10, 15, 20 MHz for details.

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SPECIAL NOTE BY EDITOR: If you are having a problem receiving bounced mail by sending mail to me via " kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org ", please send mail to me via " kb8nw@arrl.net "..... TNX de Tedd KB8NW

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OPDX WORLD-WIDE WEB HOME PAGE (provided by John, K8YSE):
<http://www.papays.com/opdx.html>
ALSO VISIT THE NORTHERN OHIO DX ASSOCIATION'S WEB HOME PAGE:
<http://www.en.com/users/k8yse/nodxa.html>
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- OR -

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1) Dial Number. 2) Wait for first ring (the second ring should be a false ring from the fax/data switch box) and then dial four quick ones ("1111").
(NOTE: Some FAX machines that send single "BEEPS" every second will not have to do this step.) 3) The phone will pick up and after the "BEEP" leave your voice message or FAX.